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**CONTACT:**

Erin Heintz, 202.638.7040; [ehointz@alz.org](mailto:ehointz@alz.org)

Alzheimer's Association media line, 312.335.4078; [media@alz.org](mailto:media@alz.org)

**HOUSE SHOWS BIPARTISAN SUPPORT OF HISTORIC  
PRIORITIZATION OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE WITH AN  
INCREASE OF \$300 MILLION FOR RESEARCH**

*Alzheimer's Association Applauds 50% Funding Increase for the Only  
Leading Cause of Death in the U.S. Without a Way to Prevent, Cure or Even Slow*

**WASHINGTON, D.C., June 17, 2015** – The House Labor, Health and Human Services (Labor-HHS) Appropriations Subcommittee today approved a historic \$300 million increase for Alzheimer's disease research as requested by Alzheimer's Association advocates. If this increase becomes law, it will be the largest annual increase in federal Alzheimer's research funding to date. The Alzheimer's Association applauds this exemplary bipartisan effort to address this devastating and costly disease before Alzheimer's prevalence triples and costs quadruple in just over a generation.

“In an act of true leadership, Chairman Cole and the bipartisan members of the subcommittee reached across the aisle today to change the trajectory of the Alzheimer's epidemic,” said Harry Johns, president and CEO of the Alzheimer's Association. “This bipartisan effort reflecting a more than a 50% increase in Alzheimer's research funding shows that leaders on Capitol Hill are in agreement that the burden Alzheimer's places on families and the nation must be addressed now.”

In March, more than 1,000 advocates from all 50 states gathered in the nation's capital for the Alzheimer's Association Advocacy Forum and asked their legislators for this increase of \$300 million for Alzheimer's research. The following month, Robert Egge, executive vice president of government affairs at the Alzheimer's Association testified before the House Labor, Health and Human Services (Labor-HHS) Appropriations Subcommittee, outlining the unique triple threat that Alzheimer's disease poses:

- More than 5 million Americans and their 15 million unpaid caregivers are affected by Alzheimer's disease.
- Already the most expensive disease in the country, according to the *New England Journal of Medicine*, the cost of Alzheimer's to the nation will soar to \$1.1 trillion by 2050, threatening family savings and the future of Medicare.

- Alzheimer's is the only leading cause of death that cannot be prevented, cured or even slowed.

Earlier this year, the Alzheimer's Association released [\*Changing the Trajectory of Alzheimer's Disease: How a Treatment by 2025 Saves Lives and Dollars\*](#), which reported that the U.S. could save \$220 billion within the first five years of a treatment for Alzheimer's disease being introduced. The report shows that meeting the goal of the *National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease* – to prevent and effectively treat Alzheimer's by 2025 – would reduce the number of individuals affected by the disease by 2.5 million within the first five years of a treatment being available.

Currently, Alzheimer's disease receives \$586 million a year in federal funding for research. Leading scientists have said it will take a ramp up to \$2 billion a year to reach the goal of the national Alzheimer's plan.

For more information on Alzheimer's disease, visit [alz.org](http://alz.org).

### **Alzheimer's Association®**

The Alzheimer's Association is the leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer's care, support and research. Our mission is to eliminate Alzheimer's disease through the advancement of research, to provide and enhance care and support for all affected, and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health. Our vision is a world without Alzheimer's. For more information, visit [alz.org](http://alz.org).

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